

Press release

4th of June 2009

Successful reliability test with fuel cells

Yesterday, as part of the fuel cell test program at TeliaSonera, a fuel cell was put to a difficult test. After 16 months of stand-still with no conditioning routines whatsoever during the stand-still the Cellkraft S-1000 fuel cell started up successfully and powered a telecom station. The ability to start up reliably after a long stand-still is of great importance for back-up applications.

The fuel cell is the first fuel cell installed in the Swedish telecom grid and was delivered and installed in September 2005. A unique feature for Cellkraft fuel cells is that they are able to start up after a long period of stand still without regular conditioning routines. Most other brands of back-up fuel cells require regular start/stop operation to ensure ability to start up reliably. The test yesterday is part of TeliaSonera's test program for fuel cells where fuel cells are tested in different telecom stations mostly located in Småland, Sweden.

Telecom stations are normally powered from the normal electricity grid. Should a grid failure occur a back-up system will provide the power. Traditionally the back-up system is based on batteries or a diesel generator set. In some applications fuel cells can give advantages in form of longer back-up time to a lower cost. Fuel cells can only become a serious choice for back-up solutions when their reliability is a proven fact.

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Cellkraft is a Swedish manufacturer of fuel cells, founded 2000. Cellkraft is privately held and profitable since 2001. Cellkraft has earlier shown their technological excellence when they were the first manufacturer to develop and sell fuel cells able to start up from sub zero without relying on electrical heating. Cellkraft has among other things delivered fuel cells for testing on Antarctica.